

DOCKET NO.: 239570US25CONT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
KIMBERLY A ANDERSON, ET AL. : EXAMINER: GILBERT  
(ANTICIPATED)  
SERIAL NO: NEW APPLICATION :  
FILED: HEREWITH : GROUP ART UNIT: 3736  
(ANTICIPATED)  
FOR: SURGICAL INSTRUMENT AND :  
METHOD

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.